

Appl. No. 10/506,490
Amdt. Dated December 11, 2006
Reply to Office Action of July 10, 2006

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•••REMARKS•••

The Office Action of July 10, 2006 has been thoroughly studied. Accordingly, the changes presented herein for the claims are believed to be sufficient to place the application into condition for allowance.

By the present amendment, independent claim 1 has been changed to recite "A vulcanizable adhesive composition for use in providing vulcanization adhesion between a metal and nitrile rubber with a nitrile content of 18 to 48% or between a metal and a hydrogenated nitrile rubber with a nitrile content of 18 to 48%, said vulcanizable adhesive composition, comprising..."

This change to independent claim 1 is believed to be commensurate with the Examiner's suggestion of reciting a future intended use "eg for use in..."

Also by the present amendment claims 5 and 7 have been changed to specifically recite the characteristic of the sealing composition that enables it to be used as a sealing element for cryogenic fluids.

This change to the claims is believed to be commensurate with the Examiner's suggestion to recite the "minimum requirements to meet cryogenic liquid seal."

Also by the present amendment, new claims 8 and 9 have been added which are directed to the use of applicants' vulcanizable adhesive composition as a sealing element in environments in which cryogenic fluids are sealed.

Entry of the changes to the claims is respectfully requested.

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Claims 1, 2 and 4-9 are pending in this application

Claims 1, 2 and 4-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Under this rejection the Examiner raised two issues.

First, the Examiner indicated that the previous recitation of "...being used in a manner..." in claim 1 rendered claim 1 indefinite.

The Examiner suggested that in claim 1 applicants recite a future intended use "eg for use in..." Applicants have accordingly adopted the Examiner's suggestion for claim 1.

Second, with regard to claims 5 and 7 the Examiner inquired: 1) if a cryogenic liquid have to be present in these claims; 2) the spatial relationship to the previously described seal element; and 3) the minimum requirements to meet "cryogenic liquid seal."

In response to this rejection, 5 and 7 have been changed to specifically recite the characteristic of the sealing composition that enables it to be used as a sealing element for cryogenic fluids.

Further new claims 8 and 9 have been added which are directed to the use of applicants' vulcanizable adhesive composition as a sealing element in environments in which cryogenic fluids are sealed.

These changes to the claims are believed to address and overcome each of the issues raised by the Examiner under the rejection set forth under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

There are no prior art rejections of the claims in the Office Action.

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Accordingly, the changes presented herein for the application are believed to place the application into condition for allowance.

Entry of the present amendment and an early allowance of the application are earnestly solicited.

It is believed that the above represents a complete response to the Official Action and reconsideration is requested.

If upon consideration of the above, the Examiner should feel that there remain outstanding issues in the present application that could be resolved; the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' patent counsel at the telephone number given below to discuss such issues.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136 is hereby made. Please charge the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 12-2136 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



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